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LETTER DATED 11 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

We have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the communiqué issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the Syrian Arab Republic following their fourth round of co-ordination and consultation, held at Riyadh on 5 and 6 January 1991.

I should be grateful if you would have this communiqué circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amre MOUSSA
Permanent Representative of
the Arab Republic of Egypt

(Signed) Samir SHIHABI
Permanent Representative of
the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

(Signed) Dia-Allah EL-FATTAL
Permanent Representative of
the Syrian Arab Republic

Annex

Communiqué

Proceeding from their faith in the unity of the common Arab destiny and adherence to all Arab conventions and recognizing the importance of - and the need to continue - co-ordination and regular periodic consultation for the purpose of defending Arab and patriotic interests, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the Syrian Arab Republic held their fourth round of co-ordination and consultation at Riyadh from 19 to 20 Jumada II A.H. 1411, corresponding to 5 to 6 January A.D. 1991.

At the beginning of the session, His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, informed His Excellency Dr. Esmat Abdel Meguid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, and His Excellency Mr. Farouk al-Shara', Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, of the results of meetings held by the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council at Doha, as well as of the favourable and positive reaction of leaders of the Gulf Co-operation Council States to the evolution of co-operation and co-ordination with Egypt and the Syrian Arab Republic and their determination to make such co-operation a regular and established practice in all spheres.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs then devoted their meetings to consideration of the critical situation resulting from Iraq's continued occupation of Kuwait. They reviewed the latest developments in the light of international contacts designed to ensure the full implementation of all Arab and Security Council resolutions relating to the Gulf crisis.

In this context, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs welcomed the international efforts and contacts designed to ensure the implementation of Arab and international resolutions calling for a complete and unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of that country's legitimate authority.

They expressed the hope that these efforts would ensure that the Security Council resolutions were implemented and that the peoples of the region - and the Iraqi people in particular - were spared the dangers of the military option. They affirmed that the Iraqi leadership bore full responsibility if its forces did not respond to the resolutions of international legitimacy.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs also reviewed the press communiqué issued by the European Community on 4 January 1991 concerning the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

The Ministers welcomed the imminent meeting between the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Iraq and the United States at Geneva on 9 January 1991, representing as it did a last opportunity for a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis in accordance with the resolutions of Arab and international legitimacy.

They extolled the European Community's affirmation of its resolute determination to ensure the full and unconditional implementation of all Security Council resolutions.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs also affirmed the declared positions of their countries with respect to the rejection of any settlement based on the concept of partial withdrawal from Kuwait and rewarding of the aggressor.

The Ministers affirmed that the question of Palestine is an Arab issue and that responsibility for it is a patriotic matter for all Arabs.

They expressed their condemnation of the Iraqi régime's attempts to take advantage of the question of Palestine in order to justify its subjugation of Kuwait and expulsion of that country's people, together with hundreds of thousands of resident workers, including Palestinians.

The Ministers also stated their rejection of any attempt by the Iraqi régime to induce any party to negotiate over the problems of the region and its security. The régime is neither qualified nor trustworthy, given its policy of adventurism and subjugation of Kuwait, in violation of all international rules and conventions, as well as Arab and Islamic values.

The Ministers also affirmed their States' determination to solve the current crisis in the Gulf region as quickly as possible in order that all Arab efforts might be devoted to bringing about a just, comprehensive and lasting solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the question of Palestine, in accordance with United Nations resolutions calling for Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and urging that the Palestinian people be enabled to exercise its inalienable legitimate rights, including the right to establish its own independent State on its national soil.

In the context of international efforts and contacts, the Ministers held a meeting with Mr. Loncar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, which currently chairs the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They discussed with him means of implementing United Nations resolutions relating to the Gulf crisis and the Movement's role in that connection.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs agreed to hold their fifth round of meetings in the Syrian Arab Republic at a date to be agreed upon in due course.